

## REMARKS

Claims 14-44 are pending. By this Amendment, claims 19, 20, 29-31, and 40-43 are cancelled, claims 14, 15, 22, 24, 32-34, 36, 37, and 44 are amended, and new claims 45-49 are added. No new matter has been added by way of these amendments.

### Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 103(a)

Claims 14-44 have been rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Herbst (5,634,508) in view of Simson et al (5,947,656).

Claim 14 has been amended to include a hole positioning template “including a template opening, such that the template opening is generally aligned with one of the first or second mortise notches wherein the hole positioning template wraps around the respective side edge of the door to overlap at least a portion of at least one of the inner or outer surfaces of the door.” Herbst and Simson et al, separate or in combination, fail to teach or suggest, in combination with the other recited limitations, the invention of amended claim 14. In addition, Simson et al. merely teaches a template for carving a cavity into a door edge, not a template for the drilling of at least one mounting hole in the door for mounting a handle assembly. Further, the Simson template does not wrap around the sides of the door.

Claim 22 has been amended to include “a removable template including a template opening adapted to be positioned over either of the mortise openings, the template adapted to wrap around both the first and second side edges to overlap at least a portion of outer and inner surfaces of the door body such that the template identifies hole locations at which to drill at least one mounting hole in the door body near the mortise opening, wherein the reversible door is able to be installed in a right hinge configuration or a left hinge configuration.” Herbst and Simson et

al, separate or in combination, fail to teach or suggest, in combination with the other recited limitations, the invention of amended claim 22.

Claim 32 has been amended to include “a removable template including a template opening adapted to be positioned over either of the mortise slots, the removable template adapted to wrap around both the first and second side edges to overlap at least a portion of the door body, the template identifying mounting hole locations to facilitate drilling of mounting holes in the door body near the mortise slot usable by the mortise lock, wherein the reversible door is able to be installed in a right hinge configuration or a left hinge configuration.” Herbst and Simson et al, separate or in combination, fail to teach or suggest, in combination with the other recited limitations, the invention of amended claim 32.

Claim 36 has been amended to include “a removable mounting hole locating template including a template opening sized to be located over one of the mortise notches so that locations for drilling mounting holes for the handle assembly are accurately identified, the template adapted to wrap around both the first and second side edges.” Herbst and Simson et al, separate or in combination, fail to teach or suggest, in combination with the other recited limitations, the invention of amended claim 36.

Claim 37 has been amended to include “positioning a removable mounting hole locating template over one of the side edges so that a template opening is located over one of the mortise notches and the template wraps around the first or second side edge.” Herbst and Simson et al,

separate or in combination, fail to teach or suggest, in combination with the other recited limitations, the invention of amended claim 37.

Claim 44 has been amended to include “preparing a removable mounting hole locating template comprising a mounting hole locating portion adapted to wrap around the side edges of the door so as to overlap at least a portion of the door, and the locating template having a template opening adapted to be aligned over one of the mortise notches.” Herbst and Simson et al, separate or in combination, fail to teach or suggest, in combination with the other recited limitations, the invention of amended claim 44.

In view of the foregoing reasoning, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection of independent claims 14, 22, 32, 36, 37, and 44, and all claims depending therefrom, under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

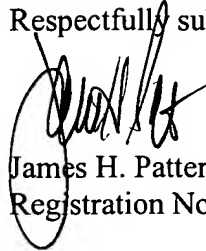
#### CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

Application No. 10/026,670

The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned if the Examiner believes it would be useful to advance prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'James H. Patterson', is written over a circular stamp or seal.

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